

~~ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION 75~~

Prop. 75 is unnecessary and unfair. Its hidden agenda is to weaken public employees and strengthen the political influence of big corporations.

Prop. 75 does *not* protect the rights of teachers, nurses, police and firefighters. Instead it's designed to reduce their ability to respond when politicians would harm education, health care and public safety.

In 1998, voters rejected a similar proposition and union members voted NO overwhelmingly.

TARGETS TEACHERS, NURSES, FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE

Why does 75 target people who take care of all of us?

Recently, teachers fought to restore funding the state borrowed from our public schools, but never repaid. Nurses battled against reductions in hospital staffing to protect patients. Police and firefighters fought against elimination of survivor's benefits for families of those who die in the line of duty.

Prop. 75 is an unfair attempt to diminish the voice of teachers, nurses, firefighters and police at a time when we need to hear them most.

**SUBJECT TO COURT
ORDERED CHANGES**

Prop. 75 *only* restricts public employees. It does *not* restrict corporations—even though corporations spend shareholders' money on politics. The nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics says corporations already outspend unions in politics nationally by 24 to 1. Prop. 75 will make this imbalance even worse.

CURRENT LAW *ALREADY* PROTECTS WORKERS

No public employee in California can be forced to become a member of a union. Non-members pay fees to the union for collective bargaining services, but the U.S. Supreme Court has consistently ruled that unions cannot use these fees for political purposes. The union must send financial statements to the worker to ensure that no unauthorized fees are used for politics. Today, 25% of state employees contribute no money to their union's political activities.

Union members already have the right to democratically vote their leaders into and out of office and to establish their own internal rules concerning political contributions. *Prop. 75 takes away union members right to make their own decisions and substitutes a government-imposed bureaucratic process.*

VIOLATES EMPLOYEES' PRIVACY

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Prop 75 requires members who want to participate to sign a government-imposed personal disclosure form that could be circulated in the workplace. This form, with personal information about employees and their political views, could be accessed by a state agency—an invasion of individual privacy which could raise the possibility of intimidation and retaliation against employees on the job.

WHO'S BEHIND PROP. 75?

Its lead sponsor is Lewis Uhler, a former John Birch Society activist, who campaigned for Bush's Social Security privatization plan.

It's funded by the deceptively-named Small Business Action Committee, which is financed by large corporations.

Backers of 75 say they want to protect workers rights, but *that's not true*. They're *against* the minimum wage, *against* protecting employee health care, *against* the 8 hour day. Backers of 75 aren't for working people, they want to silence working people who stand against them.

VOTE NO ON 75

Please help stop this unfair attempt to apply restrictions to teachers, nurses, firefighters,

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police and sheriffs that would apply to no one else.

Lou Paulson, President, California Professional Firefighters

Barbara Kerr, President, California Teachers Association

local president,

Sandra Marques, RN, [^]United Nurses Associations of California

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